



Motley Free Methodist Church

"In His Grip"

Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood Street E, Motley, MN. 56466

Feb. 2018

Pastor Jim Johnson: pastorjim05@brainerd.net 218.352.6888

<http://www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com>

A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

1 Peter 1:6-7 *"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith being much more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire may be found to praise honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ"*

The Lord Jesus is coming back friends! And though we may suffer some things here on earth...having placed our faith squarely in Jesus the Christ as Savior and Lord, there will come a day that we will rejoice in His presence and the things of earth will grow strangely dim. May I encourage us to rejoice in His goodness and rejoice at his coming?

I would like to mention a couple of things regarding church safety and emergency evacuation type situations.

First, on February 4th during our church services we will briefly go over our new emergency evacuation procedures and then give anyone that would like a copy of that policy. We will celebrate communion on that Sunday also, but we need to go over this policy with you too, please bear with us as we do what we are called on to do.

Second, on February 17th (Saturday) our local law enforcement personnel will be doing a training here at the church for all BOA members, class teachers, ministry leaders and anyone else that would like to come, regarding what to do if we encounter a shooter situation.

In this day and age church shootings are becoming more and more common and we want to provide some training for us here too.

This training will take a couple of hours that day and we will plan to start at 1:00 pm on February 17th. Chief Ron Smith, Al Yoder or I can answer your questions if you have them before the training. Please, all those leaders and teachers mentioned above, plan to attend this important training.

We would like to think that a situation like this would never happen here, but it is better to be prepared and not have it ever happen then to not be prepared and have it happen. There will be some other churches invited to this training also.

Our BOA and I have finalized the job description for the Assistant Pastor roll that we are now actively seeking.

If you would like a copy of that job description for yourself or some other interested and qualified person, please see Linda Beebe or Pastor Jim for a copy of that.

Our Superintendent mentioned the importance of being a part of the "team" and being aware of your spiritual giftedness. If you would like a gift assessment, please see Pastor Jim for one. That will help you identify (if you are not already aware) your spiritual gift and allow you to use that gift to help in the church and bring glory to God.

Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge will be with us on Sunday March 4th. We will take up an offering for them and the ministry there in Brainerd and please bear in mind we will be feeding a large crowd that day when we have pot-luck lunch together after the second service. Thank you.

I mentioned this at our annual meeting, but you may not have had the chance to be there and hear it then, so please allow me to say again; we (MFMC) are looking to add 2 new ministries this year; 1) Greif support ministry is an important time of healing and just coming along side of people to support them. With the amount of funerals that we do here we think that this is a good use of our time. In the near future we will send someone to some training on grief counseling and then we will provide some grief support for those who wish to be a part of that support group.

2) We want to be intentional about our "widow support". This may be mean financial or emotional or grief support to widows. Please see Linda if you are interested in helping with this (visitations or other) and please see Linda if you are a widow and want to talk more about this.

Lastly, please pray with the BOA and I as we now start this process of hiring a new assistant pastor.

Please pray with us too, as we seek to do the Lord's will in this place. Whether that means a new pastor, another building project, financial support to mission groups around the world, making disciples or even taking on a "church plant" or sister church project. Please pray with us for the direction God would have us to go next.

God bless you all.

Serving Jesus and serving you.

Pastor Jim

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Upcoming Events:

- Feb. 3rd- CMA meeting
- Feb. 9th- Valentine's dinner at 5:30
- Feb. 10th- Women's Ministry meeting at 10:00
- Feb. 10th- VBS meeting at 11:00
- Feb. 17th- Church Safety training 1:00
- Feb. 19th- BOA meeting at 6:30
- Mar. 4th- Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge

Small Group Information:

As a part of a growing body, the best way to have a more intimate fellowship and Bible study is to be involved in a small group. Here at the Motley Free Methodist Church we currently have 8 small group opportunities...

- Sunday morning at 9:00 Youth Bible Study with Tim Judd in the Fellowship Hall
- Sunday morning at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall, led by Chris Neal or Dan Rose studying "A Clash of Kingdoms"
- Sunday evening at 5:00 pm, Young Married Couples led by Ron & Dorothy Odenthal
- Tuesday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30 pm studying Hebrews
- Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall studying the book of 1 Samuel



- Wednesday afternoon intercessory prayer team at 12:00 pm
- Thursday evenings Men's Group at 6:30 pm with Wayne Johnson & Mike Horstmann
- Thursday evenings Women's Bible Study at 6:30-8 pm studying Worship by Henry Blackaby Led by Susie Horstmann & Barb Hirschev
- Saturday evening prayer group at the church at 6 pm with Pastor Jim

Please pray about which group you can be a part of or if you would be willing to lead a different small group please see Tim Judd-Small Group Head or Pastor Jim!



Women's Ministry News:

Striving to be the Proverbs 31 woman (Proverbs 31:30 "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy"). January 13th meeting was Cold*Cold*Cold* but 10 of us ladies braved the cold and enjoyed Dawn Nelson from The Brainerd Center speak about all the activities and ongoing events at the center. It was very informative and much appreciated. We held another movie night on Friday, January 19th, showing "God Is Not Dead 2". Thanks to everyone who came and special thanks to Val and Wayne J, Barb and Curt H, and Charlie P.

February 9: Valentine's Dinner 5:30-6 pm social; 6pm dinner will be served by the youth group with all donations going to their summer missions trip. There are 2 sign-up sheets on back table. 1) Names attending including ages of children for childcare 2) Food items. Please join us for food, fun, and fellowship.

March 4: Minnesota Teen Challenge Choir will be here for both services with potluck afterwards. There will be a list of requested items and a basket at back table for those donations.

April 1: Easter Sunday we will be partnering up with Men's Ministry to make and serve breakfast celebrating Christ's resurrection.

*Finally, I want us to hold our dear, sweet, sister Karen Crider up in prayer. Her precious love, Pastor Les Crider went home to be with The Lord Jesus Christ. We stand with you, Karen and your loved ones.

**Our next Women's Ministry Meeting: February 10th @10 am. Hope to see you there.

Youth News:

January started off with a new curriculum, we purchased a year's worth of curriculum called Grow. The new curriculum has monthly subjects, weekly lessons with small group break outs at the end of each lesson. Another nice feature is it has a formatted email to send to all the parents to keep them informed on what our lessons are about. On January 24th we attended the B.A.Y. Rally in Brainerd, with the youth from our group that help with the rallies and the youth that we brought we had 30 youth total attend.

February 9th the youth will be helping with the Valentine's dinner, this is big for the youth because there will be a free will offering that will go to help with the cost of our missions trip this summer. Our mission trip plans are coming along nicely, but we still have some ways to go on the fund raising. February 15th the second payment is due for the mission trip. So please come on February 9th for a good meal, good fellowship, fun time and help support the youth mission trip this summer. Craig is going to start off the months lessons with a special subject and then we will go back to the new curriculum. The lesson subject for February is "HURTING" so please keep the youth in your prayers because the subject hits so close to home with so many of our youth.

Please feel free to contact Jessica Judd (218) 296-2441 or Craig Weigel (218) 839-0007 with any questions or concerns

February 2018

2/4- Nick & Lonna/Vicki G. & Diane B.

2/11- Kripa & Mikayla R./Lisa M. & Lilly N.

2/18- Linda B. & Grace/Marisela & Ashley V.

2/25- Diane J.& Deb C./Dale & Carla

March 2018

3/4- Jennifer & Logan/Samantha & Dayton

3/11- Melaine S. & Margaret F./Ken, Hope & Sue

3/18- Ian & Sue N./Brandi N. & Pat B.

3/25- Dorothy & Kristen O./Sandy K. & Morgan

April 2018

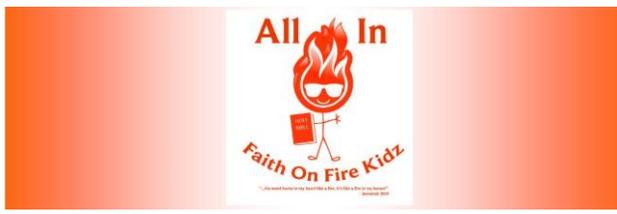
4/1 Jaurone & Mikayla/Vicki G. & Diane B.

4/8 Nick & Lonna/Lisa M. & Lilly N.

4/15 Kripa & Mikayla R./Marisela & Ashley V.

4/22 Linda B. & Grace J./Dale & Carla L.

4/29 Diane J.& Deb C./Ken, Hope & Sue



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."- 2 Corinthians 5:17 Praise God! We celebrate again this month for all that God is doing during club time and most of all we celebrate for 1 of our children who prayed to receive Jesus as his Savior! Friends, it is an honor to be telling you this and to thank you all for praying for these kids!

We have been learning about Moses and God's people and the book of Exodus. We finished up this last week in the book of Exodus with a family movie night of "The Ten Commandments" (animated version 😊). We look forward to this next month, and all that God has planned for us, as we continue through the Old Testament and learning how it points to Jesus and God's Great Rescue Plan for each of us! We hope to get started on our Pinewood Derby cars also!

We need your help! Become a Child Mentor- A mentor would come each Wednesday and sit with a couple of children, talk to them about their week, follow them throughout the night, help them to learn their verse when needed, go through past verses to review, pray for them, etc. We are also looking for some adults that would be interested in helping with the Pinewood Derby: helping design cars, cutting cars, coming to help as kids sand and paint, put on wheels and weights, and lastly an adult or two or three or four that would be willing to team up and run the Derby the night of May 2nd. This was a lot of fun last year, please help us make it just as exciting this year! If you are interested in helping in any way please contact Valerie Johnson asap.

Thank you for always praying for us and please continue to pray for us in the following ways: 1) Children and their families- that they will continue to come, and that God will prepare their hearts to make a decision to accept Jesus as their Savior. 2) Volunteers- to be healthy, to strengthen and encourage them to love these kids with a love that God fills us with. 3) Safety- on roads while driving, during club time. 4) That God will continue to provide all our needs for feeding and ministering to the children.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 31: Regular Club; **February 7:** Regular Club; **February 14:** Jesus Loves You Night; **February 21:** No Club; **February 28:** Regular Club; **March 7:** Sport Night



Leslie M. Crider, age 84, of Motley. Passed away on January 20th, 2018 at the St. Cloud Hospital.

Leslie was born August 10, 1933 in Eagle Bend, MN to Maud (Solid) and Virgil Crider. He attended country grade school at the Crider School then attended High School in Eagle Bend.

He married Darlene Kaliher, they had one daughter, Diane. He married Marie Jay they had one daughter, Barbara. He married Karen Rogers and they had two sons, David and Paul. Les enjoyed pastoring churches in Motley, Pillager and Henriette for over 40 years. Les was also a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) working in hospitals until he retired as an anesthetist, then went back to the hospital and worked in Cardiac

Rehabilitation for another 10 years before his final retirement from medical work at age 75. He is preceded in death by his parents, Maud and Virgil; granddaughter, Andrea Amdall; sister Dolores Pattison; brothers, Kenneth, Marion, Merwin, and Roy.

Les is survived by his wife, Karen; daughters, Diane (Ralph) Patterson of Bangor, Maine, Barbara Crider of Acton, Maine; sons, David Crider of Motley, Paul Crider of Motley; grandchildren, April Amdall, Nathan (Kelly) Amdall, Aaron Amdall, Leah (Virgil) Lyon and Ashley Crider; 9 great grandchildren; sisters, Jean (Tom) Hockaday, Virginia (Jim) Hudson; brother, Gerald (Nellie) Crider.

A memorial service for Les was held 1:00pm Friday, January 26, 2018 at the Motley Free Methodist Church with Pastor Jim Johnson, officiating. Interment Motley Cemetery.

2018 Christian Education Meeting Minutes

Date: January 15, 2018

Time: 6 pm

People Present: Sue & Danny Rydbom, Craig Weigel, Mike Horstmann, Jason Caldwell, Linda Beebe, Brandi Neal, Marilyn O'Regean, Traci Birkholtz, Barb Hirshey, Sheri Johnson, Jessica Judd

Discussion Held:

*Opened with prayer

***Children's Church/Sunday School Needs:** Barb doesn't need the second books for her class when we order spring curriculum, Danny & Sue would like more heat in the big area (their classroom), Barb asked about offering a parent/child class where the parents could attend with their child in order for them to hear or learn alongside their children. Jason's class is doing well. Barb also asked about taking an offering with the children, we discussed it has been up to the teachers as some feel strongly in teaching about the tithes and others have felt strongly against asking children in humble circumstances for more. Children's church needs snacks and paper. Sheri is currently using bible study lessons she has on hand.

***Fall Festival Discussion**-both positive reinforcing statements were made regarding changing the day of our harvest festival, as well as several people had questions as to why we were not doing it on Oct. 31. Some ideas for this year being consider are...moving the event a few weeks earlier, for warmer weather yet, also the idea of Wednesday evening programming kick-off idea thrown around again, a suggestion was made to incorporate the pie making contest as well as homemade ice cream to encourage more participation in other areas of that as well, since the ice cream contest was such a hit! A lot of good feedback from the event as a whole, with one comment on music being too loud inside. (Which we hope to remedy by being outdoors if the event were held earlier!)

***Children's Christmas Program**-this program received some of the best feedback ever! The discussion was that the majority enjoy the classic Christmas story told by the whole of our children. Looking for one person to possibly head up or oversee the program in 2018. Suggestions made to have each class do their own piece to have less chaos for the weekly practices, however the majority likes the children coming together as one for the program!

***All-In Update**-Val stated in January they are learning about Moses, with a movie/family night on Jan. 24. Still in need of some food items during the year as well as more hands to come along side and love/support our children.

***Youth Update**-Craig shared the youth group purchased a year-long curriculum called GROW for the youth this year. Most lessons will be facilitated by Jess or Craig with small group discussion questions led by Danny Rydbom, Sue Rydbom, Susie Horstmann, Tim Judd, Jess Judd or Craig Weigel. Each week the youth have game time, then snack/social time, worship music time followed by the hour lesson time. The Missions trip is coming together. It is a trip to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in SD on July 7-14, 2018. The youth will do two days of service work and two days of kids club work at the reservation (like VBS.) The youth will be serving and doing child care at the Valentine's Dinner as a fundraising event for the missions trip's second payment which is due mid-February. The youth have been averaging 22-26 kids weekly and will attend the BAY rally on Jan. 24th.

***Nursery Update**-Linda stated the new nursery schedule is going well. She is cleaning/disinfecting the toys regularly. Discussion about the door handle and putting a guard over it to keep little ones from escaping.

***VBS update**-2018 VBS has been set for June 18-22, 2018. 4:30-7:30 pm The VBS kit has been purchased and preparations are being made for the 1st VBS meeting which will be held on Saturday, February 10 at 11 am. The theme this year is Shipwrecked-Rescued by Jesus!

***Outreach Ideas:** Everyone enjoyed the summer picnics last year! An idea about using the new church van to pick up kids on Sunday mornings if there was a need, mentor program for younger-older people with a study on who Jesus is..., Easter/Palm Sunday kids activity/play/presentation, letting parents of youth know that LAPS has sex talk training for parents available.

*Closed in prayer

Motley Free Methodist Church
BOA Minutes January 22, 2018

Present: Pastor Jim, Sue Griffith, Charlie Poulton, Linda Beebe, Craig Weigel, Chris Neal, Tim Judd, Mary Duberowski

Guests: Wayne and Val Johnson

Devotions/Prayer: Pastor Jim read, "Longing for God" by A.W. Tozier Psalms 42:1-2 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? "In Your grace help me to long for more of Jesus. I want more of You. I want to know thee. I thirst to be more thirsty still." We, in the church, should be longing for more of God.

Secretary Report: Craig motioned to accept November 2017 Secretary's Report, Charlie second it. No discussion, motion carried.

BOA Chair and Secretary: Craig motioned to re-elect Traci as BOA Secretary, Mary second it. No discussion, motion carried. Chris motioned to re-elect Craig as BOA Chair, Mary second. No discussion, motion carried.

Old Business:

- **Emergency Response Plan/Evacuation Plan-** Evacuation Plans are posted throughout the building in designated areas of gatherings. Charlie will speak to the congregation on Sunday, Feb. 4th to explain the Emergency Response Plan/Evacuation Plan. He will also mention that we will be having a Church Safety/A.L.I.C.E/Active Shooter Training on Feb. 17th. Everyone on the BOA, Sunday School teachers and Youth Group leaders will be required to attend. It will be open to everyone else who wish to attend.
- **Assistant Pastor Job Description-** The BOA discussed the job description and finalized it.

New Business:

- **Membership List-** Pastor Jim will present to the BOA next month a list of members who have not attended church in over a year. The BOA will need to vote to place them on the inactive list.
- **Church Directory-** How do we do it this time? We will form a small committee and look at options to see how we can best achieve a new directory.
- **Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge-** They will be here on March 4th. We will ask for half of the men to attend, about 30 men. We will have a pot-luck lunch after 2nd service.
- **Kevin Austin-** Kevin is a FM missionary working domestically and globally through the "[Set Free Movement](#)" to end modern-day slavery. He will be presenting a seminar on May 5th and then preaching on May 6th. Other conference churches and local churches will be attending. This will be open to everyone.

Other:

- We will talk more next month about some music equipment that needs to be replaced.
- **Grief and Widow's Ministry-** Pastor Jim has done 28 funerals in the last 12 months. That is a whole lot of hurting people. Do we want to send someone to a 4-day training and they would be a certified grief counselor? We also want to come alongside widows. It may be financial or it may be spiritual or both.
- Val Johnson attended the City of Motley's planning committee on Junefest. This year it will be Sat., June 16th. They are looking for some help in kids & family events. Last year our church served root beer floats and had some games. Val had a lot of feedback from parents that they were happy that there was something more family friendly.

February 2018

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

02

03

6:30 Men's
Group
6:30 Women's
Group

12:00 AA
Meeting

6:00 Prayer
Time

04

05

06

07

08

09

10

9:00 First Serv.
10:30 Second
5:30 Young
Married Couples

4:00 Worship
Practice

6:30 Bible Study

9:30 Bible Study
12:00 Prayer Time
12:00 AA Meeting
3:30 All-In
5:30 Youth Group

6:30 Men's
Group
6:30 Women's
Group

12:00 AA
Meeting

**5:30 Valentine's
Dinner*

**10:00 Women's
Ministry Meeting*

6:00 Prayer
Time

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

9:00 First Serv.
10:30 Second
5:30 Young
Married Couples

4:00 Worship
Practice

6:30 Bible Study

9:30 Bible Study
12:00 Prayer Time
12:00 AA Meeting
3:30 All-In
5:30 Youth Group

6:30 Men's
Group
6:30 Women's
Group

12:00 AA
Meeting

**1:00 Church
Safety Training*

6:00 Prayer
Time

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

9:00 First Serv.
10:30 Second
5:30 Young
Married Couples

4:00 Worship
Practice

6:30 Bible Study

6:30 BOA
Meeting

9:30 Bible Study
12:00 Prayer Time
12:00 AA Meeting
3:30 All-In
5:30 Youth Group

6:30 Men's
Group
6:30 Women's
Group

12:00 AA
Meeting

6:00 Prayer
Time

25

26

27

28

9:00 First Serv.
10:30 Second
5:30 Young
Married Couples

4:00 Worship
Practice

6:30 Bible Study

9:30 Bible Study
12:00 Prayer Time
12:00 AA Meeting
3:30 All-In
5:30 Youth Group